Total employment on Guam declined modestly this quarter and over the year as shown in the September 2003 preliminary job count. Construction industry employment, which had been showing strong increases over the year largely due to typhoonrecovery projects, dipped moderately this quarter. Construction industry employment estimated at 5210 jobs, however, remains nearly double that of a year ago. Private sector employment was virtually unchanged this quarter except for construction and a seasonal resumption of private school employment in the services category. The loss of over two thousand private sector jobs in various industries over the year was offset by the increase in construction resulting in relativelystable private sector totals over the year.

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